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Subject: [External] Mexico, Asia drove demand for U.S. LNG in 2017

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By Ben Lefebvre

03/27/2018 11:15 AM EDT

U.S. LNG exports quadrupled in 2017 on rising demand from Mexico and Asia, a new [report](#) from the Energy Information Administration shows.

Shipments reached 1.94 billion cubic feet per day last year as Cheniere Energy's Sabine Pass export facility expanded its output capacity and the Cove Point facility in Maryland came online, according to the data from the EIA. The exports helped turn the U.S. into a net gas exporter earlier this year.

Asia was the top market for LNG, but Mexico was the single largest destination country.

"Growing natural gas demand in Mexico, particularly from the power generation sector, and delays in the construction of domestic pipelines connecting to U.S. export pipelines led Mexico to rely on LNG imports to supplement imports of natural gas by pipeline," the EIA report said.

LNG exports to Asia also picked up as U.S. gas prices dropped below supplies from Australia and Europe, the EIA said.

WHAT'S NEXT: The U.S. is expected to become one of the world's largest gas exporters as other companies' export terminals start operations in the next two years.

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